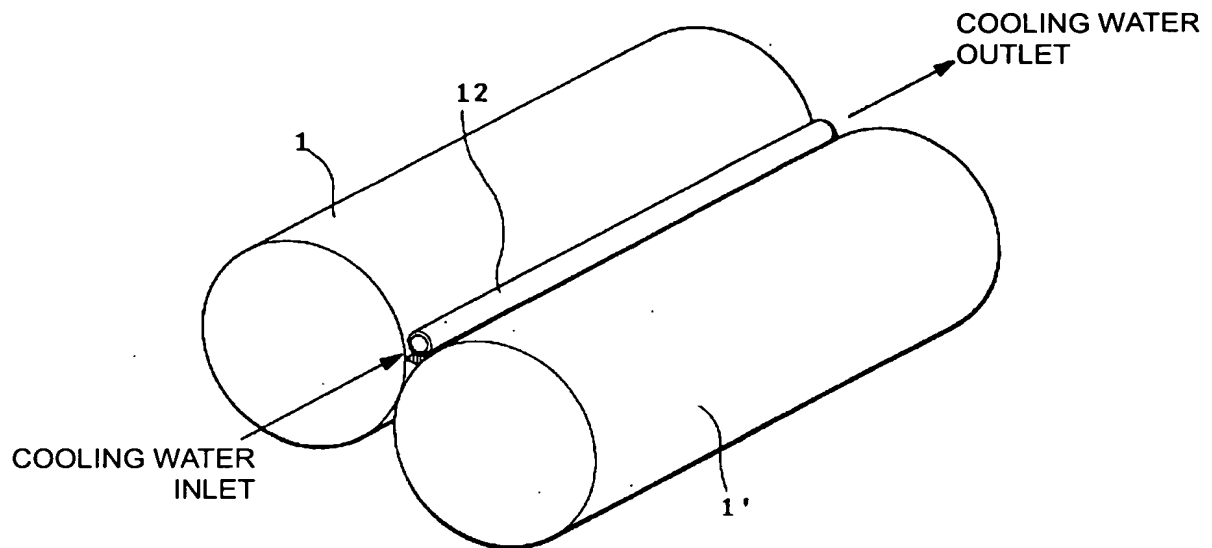
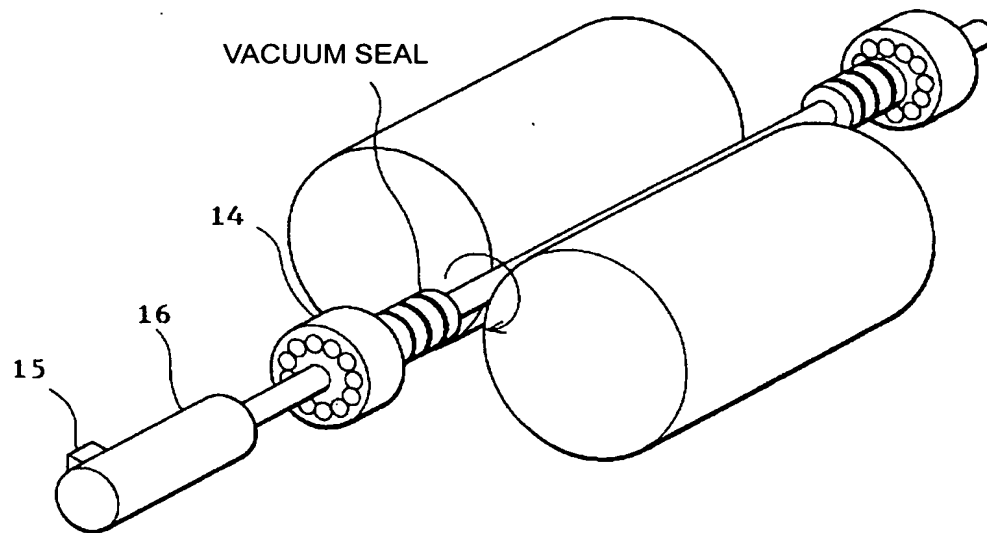


[Fig. 1]



[Fig. 2]



[illegible]

A schematic diagram of a vacuum furnace. A cylindrical sample holder (10) is positioned vertically inside a rectangular furnace chamber (16). The holder contains a sample (2) held between two horizontal plates (3). The holder is surrounded by a heating element (1, 1'). The furnace chamber is connected to a vacuum pump (7) via a flange (6). The vacuum pump is also connected to the atmosphere through a valve (7) and a line labeled 'VACUUM PUMP' and 'ATMOSPHERE'.

[Fig. 4]

